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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

4 v.

15 Cr. 643 (PKC)

5 JASON GALANIS,

6 Defendant.

7 -----x

May 17, 2016
3:20 p.m.

9 Before:

10 HON. P. KEVIN CASTEL

11 District Judge

12 APPEARANCES

13 PREET BHARARA

United States Attorney for the
Southern District of New York

14 BY: BRIAN R. BLAIS

15 REBECCA MERMELSTEIN

AIMEE HECTOR

16 Assistant United States Attorneys

17 MURPHY PEARSON BRADLEY & FEENEY

Attorneys for Defendant

18 BY: THOMAS P. MAZZUCCO

AARON K. McCLELLAN

19 THOMPSON & KNIGHT LLP

20 Attorneys for Defendant

21 BY: MARION BACHRACH

22 Also present: SHANNON BIENIEK, FBI

RENA BOLIN, Pretrial

23 TIFFANY FRANCIS, Pretrial

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(Case called)

THE DEPUTY CLERK: For the government.

MR. BLAIS: Good afternoon, your Honor. Brian Blais, Rebecca Mermelstein and Aimee Hector for the government.

Also with us at counsel table is Special Agent Shannon Bieniek from the FBI and Rena Bolin and Tiffany Francis from Pretrial Services.

THE COURT: Good afternoon to you all.

For the defendant.

MR. MAZZUCCO: Good afternoon, your Honor. Thomas Mazzucco on behalf of Mr. Jason Galanis.

MR. McCLELLAN: Aaron McClellan on behalf of Jason Galanis.

MS. BACHRACH: Good afternoon, your Honor. I am a newcomer here and I seek permission, your Honor, to appear on a limited appearance for bail purposes. I am Marion Bachrach, and I have been a member of this bar for longer than I care to admit at this point.

THE COURT: Mr. Galanis, is that satisfactory to you?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.

THE COURT: Government have any objection?

MR. BLAIS: No, your Honor.

THE COURT: That's absolutely fine.

Let me hear from the government.

MR. BLAIS: Thank you, your Honor.

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1 Your Honor, I will start with just a very brief
2 factual background to situate us. I will then briefly remind
3 the Court of the applicable legal standard. And then we will
4 offer our arguments regarding the revocation that we seek.

5 Your Honor, Jason Galanis was arrested on September
6 24, 2015 in connection with the indictment that is pending
7 before your Honor. He was arrested here in New York and was
8 presented before a magistrate judge on the day of his arrest,
9 September 24. There was an agreed upon bail package that had
10 been reached by the parties that was entered by Magistrate
11 Ellis on the day of arrest.

12 And just to briefly summarize the terms for your
13 Honor, it was a \$10 million recognizance bond, secured by four
14 financially responsible parties, secured by a specific piece of
15 property that had approximately \$3 million in equity, the
16 surrender of the defendant's passport and a condition that he
17 make no new applications, travel restricted to the Southern and
18 Eastern Districts of New York, as well as the Central and
19 Northern Districts of California, regular pretrial supervision.
20 And there was an additional condition that the defendant
21 disclose the names of any entities for which he was serving as
22 an officer, director, consultant, adviser, or investment
23 banker. That's relevant to something that I will be touching
24 on later in my argument.

25 THE COURT: That was reflected in an order of Judge

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1 Ellis?

2 MR. BLAIS: Correct.

3 As we noted in our correspondence to the Court last
4 week, the defendant was arrested again last Wednesday, May 11,
5 pursuant to a complaint that was filed in this district. The
6 defendant was arrested in the Central District of California
7 and was presented before a magistrate judge in Los Angeles. At
8 that time, he was released pursuant to the existing bond in the
9 case before your Honor, and was also additionally ordered to
10 submit to home detention and electronic monitoring, and given a
11 date of today to report to the Southern District. And he will
12 be presented on the complaint in magistrate's court at some
13 time following this proceeding here today.

14 In our letter to the Court that was filed last week,
15 we requested this hearing today pursuant to Section 3148(b) of
16 Title 18. Just to remind your Honor of the terms of Section
17 3148(b), that section provides that a court may revoke an
18 already existing bail if, after a hearing, it can be
19 established that there is probable cause to believe that the
20 defendant committed a federal, state or local offense while on
21 pretrial release, and either that there are no conditions or
22 combination of conditions that will ensure that the defendant
23 will not flee and that he poses no danger to the community or
24 to others, or that the person is unlikely to abide by any
25 conditions that are set by the court.

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1 We submit, your Honor, that, first, there is probable
2 cause to believe that the defendant committed a federal offense
3 while on pretrial release. And under Section 3148(b), if that
4 condition is met, if the first prong of 3148(b) is met, that
5 there is probable cause to believe an offense was committed, it
6 gives rise to a rebuttable presumption that there are no
7 conditions that will satisfy or that will protect the safety of
8 the community. And we submit, in light of some evidence I am
9 going to discuss regarding obstructive and threatening conduct
10 engaged in by this defendant, that that presumption cannot be
11 rebutted in this case and that, therefore, bail revocation is
12 appropriate.

13 So let me start first by discussing the probable cause
14 prong of Section 3148(b).

15 Our letter to the Court last week attached a copy of
16 the complaint that charged Mr. Galanis with additional
17 offenses. I have provided to the Court in advance of this
18 proceeding a copy of that complaint, to the extent that that
19 was necessary. That complaint, in a fair degree of detail,
20 outlines a fraudulent scheme involving the issuance of bonds by
21 a tribal entity. And it alleges that Mr. Galanis, as well as
22 various codefendants, did a number of illegal things, one of
23 which was misappropriating a substantial portion of the
24 proceeds of that bond issuance. And I think we detail in the
25 complaint the use of proceeds for a significant portion of what

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1 was misappropriated, including payments that were used for Mr.
2 Galanis's home, payments that were used to pay for automobile
3 expenses, travel expenses, food and restaurant bills, things of
4 that nature. And I think we allege in the complaint --

5 THE COURT: Eight-and-a-half million dollars.

6 MR. BLAIS: Eight-and-a-half million dollars was
7 misappropriated by this particular defendant.

8 The complaint also alleges in connection with that
9 scheme that certain asset management firms that were controlled
10 by or at least affiliated with Mr. Galanis, that these tribal
11 bonds, for which there was no ready secondary market, they were
12 essentially illiquid, that those bonds were placed with clients
13 of those asset management firms against their will and without
14 prior notice, and to date none of those clients have been able
15 to dispose of these fairly illiquid bonds which now, according
16 to the complaint, some of which are in default because the
17 interest money that was supposed to be coming from annuities,
18 at least for the most recent series of bonds, has not been
19 paid.

20 But, specifically, as it relates to probable cause to
21 believe that an offense was committed while on pretrial
22 release, there are specific allegations, and they are in the
23 very last paragraph of the complaint, paragraph 63. It appears
24 on page 44 and 45 of the complaint, and that paragraph alleges
25 that, in furtherance of this scheme, on or about February 17,

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1 2016 -- so that is at a time when the defendant was on pretrial
2 release from this matter -- that he sent a letter to
3 representatives of the tribe that we alleged in the complaint
4 contain a series of misrepresentations.

5 We have provided to the Court a copy of that letter.
6 It's a five-page letter. It is on the letterhead of an entity
7 called Thorsdale Fiduciary and Guaranty, which is an entity
8 controlled by the defendant. It is, in fact, signed by the
9 defendant.

10 We alleged in the complaint that there are a number of
11 misrepresentations made to the tribal entity that issued the
12 bonds in connection with essentially how their money had been
13 used. Paragraph 63 alleges, for example, that in the letter
14 from Mr. Galanis to the tribe he says, for example, "The SEC
15 has declared the bonds dubious, in part because they have
16 jumped to the conclusion, based on the most superficial
17 incomplete information, that Thorsdale has diverted money for
18 its own benefit. This is without a doubt a false assumption."

19 We set forth in significant detail in the complaint,
20 how, as your Honor noted, 8.75 million was in fact diverted
21 through Thorsdale and used by Mr. Galanis for personal
22 purposes. So we certainly believe there is probable cause to
23 believe that that statement, sent during the time of Mr.
24 Galanis's pretrial release, was in furtherance of and evidence
25 of a crime committed by Mr. Galanis during that period of

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1 pretrial release.

2 To point to another statement in the letter that I
3 think is a bald misrepresentation, there is a statement in
4 there that WLCC, that's the bond issuer, the tribal entity,
5 bond interest -- and this is on page 1 of the document -- bond
6 interest of over 2.72 million was already repaid by these
7 distributions, and that's referring to annuity distributions,
8 precisely as contemplated in the indenture and related
9 agreements.

10 In fact, we allege in other portions of the complaint
11 that the interest on the bonds was paid, in large measure not
12 by distributions from any annuity, but by transfers from a
13 codefendant, Devon Archer, and largely by sales of an IPO that
14 the proceeds of the tribal bond were in fact invested in. And
15 that's certainly not the process that was described in the
16 indentures as to how the proceeds of the tribal bonds would be
17 invested.

18 So we believe, in large measure, based on false
19 representations made in this letter, that there is certainly
20 probable cause, a very low standard, to believe that Mr.
21 Galanis committed securities fraud and other frauds during the
22 pendency of his pretrial release, and we believe, as a result,
23 that that gives rise to the rebuttal presumption that there are
24 no conditions that satisfy and protect the safety of the
25 community. And we think that that presumption cannot be

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1 overcome in this circumstance, given evidence of what I
2 mentioned before of other obstructive and threatening conduct
3 that occurred, in large measure, during the period of pretrial
4 release.

5 In connection with that, we did provide to the Court,
6 at the start of this proceeding, a document that's titled,
7 "Selected text messages sent to and from Jason Galanis's cell
8 phone." These are text messages that were entirely with a
9 particular individual and that the government received, or the
10 SEC received pursuant to a subpoena that was issued to that
11 individual, that was then provided to the criminal authorities
12 pursuant to a standard access grant.

13 Looking through these text messages, and I won't read
14 them all but I will read some of them for completeness of the
15 record, it is clear that there are threatening and obstructive
16 comments directed at this individual, who is a potential
17 witness in the upcoming trial, and I think the text messages
18 also make clear that Mr. Galanis recognized that he was a
19 potential witness in the upcoming proceeding.

20 THE COURT: You're talking about the proceeding before
21 me?

22 MR. BLAIS: Correct, your Honor. The upcoming trial
23 that's scheduled for September.

24 Starting with the first block of e-mails, and I made
25 reference to the numbers in the first column, which are I think

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1 a unique identifier for each text message.

2 The very first one, 7490 -- and again, this message
3 was sent before Mr. Galanis was arrested on the matter here.
4 He was not on pretrial release when this message was sent. But
5 asked that individual: "Dude, have you heard from the
6 commission?" We believe referencing the Securities and
7 Exchange Commission.

8 And then just four messages later saying, "I knew you
9 had contact, by the way," suggesting that he is somehow aware
10 that this witness is speaking to government authorities.

11 Then jumping to the next block -- and the remainder of
12 the messages here were all sent following Mr. Galanis's arrest.
13 So all were sent during his period of pretrial release.

14 So 6905, just mere hours after he was presented in
15 magistrate's court here, sends a message to this individual:
16 "Got arrested today."

17 Looking down just a few messages after that, 6900:
18 "Pretty sure you knew." Again, suggesting that Mr. Galanis
19 believes or understands that this witness may have had some
20 contact with government authorities.

21 Then flipping to page 2, starting down towards the
22 bottom, 6884 through 6880: "Tell Ron I said hello."

23 Then the witness responds: "Fleming?"

24 "Yes and your other lawyers."

25 So Mr. Galanis is telling the witness to say hello to

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1 his lawyers.

2 Then flipping to page 3 -- again, a series of messages
3 that were sent in November -- pointing to 6512: "By the way,
4 you were the second largest document production too." As
5 though the size of one's document production is a measure of
6 loyalty as opposed to the responsiveness of the documents.

7 Again, all of these messages suggest that Mr. Galanis
8 is aware that this individual is providing documents to the
9 government, had spoken to the government, and is sort of teeing
10 up the most troublesome series of messages, which are those
11 that come on January 10, again, well into this defendant's
12 period of pretrial release.

13 And many of these, it's a series of vulgarities, which
14 I won't belabor by reading them all into the record, but
15 certainly look at 4738, where Mr. Galanis addresses this
16 witness as a government fag.

17 Later, in 4730, he calls him a low dirty mother F'er.

18 Then a series of what we construe as threatening
19 messages.

20 Starting at 4735: "I will pay you back for being
21 awful and disloyal to her." I think he is referencing his wife
22 in this particular instance.

23 4723: "Long, long life."

24 4722: "I will expose you."

25 4720: "Mess with my wife and I'll teach you a lesson,

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1 little guy."

2 4719: "Sleep tight and be worried."

3 4718: "Scams will be exposed."

4 Your Honor, these are, at the very least, troublesome
5 messages to be sent to a potential government witness by an
6 individual who is on pretrial release.

7 I would like to jump to another example of what we
8 believe is obstructive conduct. I referenced earlier the bail
9 condition that the defendant disclose his entities for which he
10 serves as an adviser, an investment banker, consultant. And he
11 did disclose to his pretrial services officer in Los Angeles
12 that he was affiliated with Thorsdale, which, as you know, is
13 the entity from which the letter to the tribe was issued.

14 But we have spoken to a witness who has provided us
15 information that, after his arrest in the matter that is
16 pending before your Honor, Mr. Galanis instructed that
17 individual to establish e-mail accounts using a domain name for
18 colarisventures.com. Mr. Galanis never disclosed to his
19 pretrial services officer any affiliation that he had with
20 colarisventures.com. In fact, he instructed that individual to
21 construct an e-mail for Mr. Galanis that was used by Mr.
22 Galanis with the e-mail address legal@colarisventures.com. And
23 Mr. Galanis is not a lawyer. So the obvious purpose for using
24 legal@colarisventures.com is to evade law enforcement efforts
25 to find out what it is that Mr. Galanis was doing.

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1 In fact, Mr. Galanis then used that e-mail, the
2 legal@colarisventures.com, in furtherance of the scheme that is
3 charged in the complaint. And we provided to your Honor, at
4 the start of this proceeding, just two very short e-mails that
5 show how this legal@colarisventures e-mail account was used.

6 The document that's labeled in the lower right-hand
7 corner WAPC, ending with 96, it starts with an e-mail from an
8 individual named Raycen Raines. He is a representative of the
9 tribal entity. And they are making a formal request to Hugh
10 Dunkerley, who is the representative of the purported annuity
11 provider under the indentures.

12 Mr. Dunkerley then forwards that message to
13 legal@colarisventures and says: "Do you want to compose a
14 reply to these folks? All the best, H."

15 THE COURT: Let me ask you, how do you establish that
16 this was in fact a disclosable entity rather than simply an
17 e-mail address used to conceal communications? Is there such a
18 thing as Colaris Ventures? Did they do any business? Or are
19 they just a name that was utilized for the purpose of
20 concealing communications?

21 MR. BLAIS: I think it was largely a name that was
22 utilized. We don't understand it to be an entity that has any
23 actual business operations.

24 THE COURT: Do I have Judge Ellis's order some
25 somewhere before me?

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1 MR. BLAIS: I can read the relevant language.

2 THE COURT: Sure.

3 MR. BLAIS: Which is he needed to disclose entities
4 for which he was serving as an officer, director, consultant,
5 adviser or investment banker.

6 THE COURT: What do you contend he was doing for
7 Colaris Ventures, and was it even an entity?

8 MR. BLAIS: We are not aware of any actual operations
9 by Colaris Ventures. I don't know that we are contending that
10 there was or certainly relying on a violation of that
11 particular bail condition.

12 THE COURT: That's what I wanted to know. So you're
13 not arguing that as to Colaris Ventures?

14 MR. BLAIS: I think that's right. We are not
15 suggesting that there is a specific bail violation. What we
16 are arguing is that, in terms of the defendant rebutting the
17 presumption that there are no conditions that will ensure the
18 safety of the community, I think the threatening text messages
19 that we have just outlined, as well as the continued
20 concealment conduct, are relevant to the Court's analysis as to
21 whether that presumption can be overcome.

22 Just to finish very quickly on this e-mail, the e-mail
23 is sent to legal@colarisventures. And the e-mail comes back
24 saying: "I would just indicate a response is forthcoming but
25 being reviewed by compliance."

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1 Page 2 shows that that is exactly the message that
2 Mr. Dunkerley conveyed back to the tribe almost word for word.
3 "Dear Raycen: A formal response is coming and is just being
4 reviewed for compliance purposes."

5 So this e-mail was being used during the pendency of
6 the pretrial release, masked with the word "legal," and was
7 used to continue the crime that was continuing during the
8 pretrial release. So this e-mail I think also speaks to the
9 probable cause issue that we have outlined.

10 To put it back in terms of danger to the community and
11 the risk of flight, we do think and do believe that this
12 evidence shows that Jason Galanis is an ongoing danger to the
13 financial well-being of the community. And that in light of
14 the evidence that we have presented, that bail revocation is
15 appropriate, that the presumption that the community cannot be
16 protected cannot be overcome in this circumstance, and that as
17 a result revocation is appropriate here.

18 Thank you, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Let me hear from defendant's counsel.

20 MS. BACHRACH: Thank you, your Honor, for allowing me
21 to address the Court today, and with the Court's permission, I
22 will do just that.

23 I would start off, your Honor, by noting that this is
24 not an indictment, it's a complaint, a lengthy one, 45 pages.
25 And when Mr. Blais mentions that there has been probable cause

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1 found regarding an offense, I am going to leave to one side for
2 a minute, your Honor, any issues about the, quote, offense or,
3 quote, new offense itself. And I would like to go directly to
4 the issue of dates, if I can. Because Mr. Blais, I actually
5 agree with him that the operative date here for all of us to
6 keep in mind is September 24, 2015 when bail conditions were
7 imposed.

8 Obviously, the reason I say that is because of the
9 statute that Assistant U.S. Attorney Blais cited to the Court
10 3148, because the issue is not so much whether there was some
11 offense here and whether there is probable cause regarding the
12 offense. Again, I will leave that to the side because I am
13 certainly not acknowledging in any way, shape or form that
14 there was.

15 What I want to point out, your Honor, is that when a
16 magistrate signs an arrest warrant, and in this case it was in
17 this district, the magistrate was not opining on probable cause
18 on the date or realm of dates or span or duration of the dates.

19 So with that in mind, let me mention preliminarily a
20 few things, and then move on to the operative dates. So I hope
21 the Court will forgive me if I interrupt myself.

22 One of the first things I would like to mention, or
23 would like to emphasize, is that Mr. Blais pointed out that Mr.
24 Galanis was brought before a magistrate in the Central District
25 of California. He was released with the additional condition

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1 of a bracelet, which was to be taken off so he can board the
2 plane to come here, which is exactly what happened, your Honor.
3 And it would be very difficult to see a risk of flight here for
4 the obvious reason that Mr. Galanis has not only appeared
5 before your Honor, but did so today again. And I would like to
6 point out that he did so knowing that the government was going
7 to seek to revoke his bail by appealing to the Court on that
8 very point.

9 I would also like to point out, your Honor, that there
10 has been a pretrial report, which I am sure was given to the
11 Court before us. Pretrial services, of course, has been
12 monitoring Jason Galanis, and I will get to disclosures because
13 he certainly has disclosed -- and we have some exhibits for the
14 Court -- his connections in terms of employment and being an
15 officer in connection with Judge Ellis's order.

16 The recommendation of pretrial services is that, it
17 says, "To reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as
18 required and the safety of the community, pretrial services
19 respectfully recommends that the defendant be released on the
20 same conditions as ordered by the Central District of
21 California." And it adds a few suggested additional conditions
22 about supervision and curfew enforced by monitoring.

23 I would like to point out, and I am going to circle
24 back to it later, your Honor, that we understand that the Court
25 may feel that there are additional conditions that it may want

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1 to impose, for no other reason that there is an additional
2 severity that is now facing Mr. Galanis.

3 THE COURT: Because isn't it a non sequitur?

4 If there is probable cause to believe that he has
5 engaged in the conduct outlined in the criminal complaint,
6 including as recently as February 17, 2016, it is a non
7 sequitur, it seems to me, to suggest that the solution to this
8 is electronic monitoring or a curfew. Conduct of that nature
9 can be conducted anywhere, correct?

10 MS. BACHRACH: I follow the Court's point so let me
11 make two answers to that. First is I am going to address the
12 February 17, 2016 letter. But first let me address the Court's
13 question about a combination of conditions.

14 I would well understand, your Honor, if what the Court
15 wanted to do was set additional conditions, not necessarily
16 only relating to curfew as suggested by pretrial services.
17 There could be other conditions. The Court might have a
18 condition, for example, and I know this would be a severe one,
19 but I say this with the benefit of having thought about it and
20 discussed it, even if there were a condition of Mr. Galanis not
21 engaging in business, but doing his personal business. There
22 are conditions that I think we can profitably discuss.

23 And I think it worthwhile to tell the Court, with that
24 in mind, I did pay a visit to the government yesterday at St.
25 Andrew's Plaza to try and discuss whether there were a

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1 combination of conditions so that we can reach agreement short
2 of detention. I thought it would be helpful for the Court and
3 helpful for the progress of this case. In their view, they
4 turned me down and they said no. I would suggest to the Court
5 that this could very profitably be discussed if the Court felt
6 it were problematic.

7 But I would like to turn, if the Court would let me,
8 to February 17, 2016.

9 THE COURT: Before you do that, one of the things I
10 would like you to address wasn't raised by the government and
11 it is not new matter, but it is certainly something that is
12 part of the totality of circumstances.

13 The grand jury indicted Mr. Galanis for the crimes
14 charged in the pending indictment, and looking at the timeline
15 in the pending indictment, that conduct included acts in
16 furtherance done while Mr. Galanis was on a term of probation
17 imposed by Judge Real in the Central District of California.

18 Am I correct about that?

19 MS. BACHRACH: I believe you are, your Honor.

20 THE COURT: I kind of cut you off. Let me go on to
21 the point that you wanted to raise.

22 MS. BACHRACH: I'd rather answer your question first
23 and then go on to the point. I think it's only fair.

24 My understanding, and I think counsel from California
25 can correct me if I am wrong, because I certainly have come

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1 very lately to this case, and I don't want to misstate
2 anything, but my understanding is that this was something that
3 the court in the Central District of California was aware of,
4 both pretrial services and the court himself. And my
5 understanding is they didn't consider it violative of his
6 probationary term. And for more color on that, and to
7 understand the reasoning, I would have to ask California
8 counsel to address your Honor's question.

9 If the Court wants me to do that now I will, but
10 otherwise I will go on to February 17.

11 THE COURT: I think the point that has been made is
12 that conduct charged in the pending indictment took place, or
13 it's charged that it took place while the defendant was on
14 probation from a prior conviction in the Central District of
15 California. That's the only point as far as I am concerned.
16 If you have anything to refute that proposition, I'm all ears.
17 But I gather that that was taken into account by the magistrate
18 judge. And, of course, that magistrate judge was not dealing
19 with 3148(b), the revocation.

20 MS. BACHRACH: I assume, your Honor, it could have
21 been, and I don't know if it was the magistrate judge or Judge
22 Real. So, again, I would have to have somebody else address
23 that, but I think this was something that was taken into
24 account, I assume it had to have been taken into account by
25 everyone, whether it was Magistrate Judge Ellis, whether it was

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1 the court in the Central District of California. And I would
2 note to the Court that Mr. Galanis has been no risk of flight,
3 has attended everything, has been very dutiful in his
4 monitoring with pretrial services.

5 And I would submit, your Honor, and I think we get to
6 the heart of the issue, so I think it is time to circle back, I
7 think that the February 17, 2016 letter is neither material nor
8 relevant, and certainly not the basis for a 3148 bail
9 revocation.

10 So let me address why I say that and I say it so
11 strongly. I have to say I don't know, the complaint being very
12 long, that I am entirely clear on what the scheme is, but I do
13 know this much because I have tried to go through it very
14 carefully. It contains pages and pages and pages about what
15 went on in 2014 and in 2015, prior to September 24. And that's
16 actually very important and very relevant, and I will say why.

17 Because there were several bonds issued by this tribal
18 entity. I gather it was an economic development corporation of
19 one of our Native American tribes. And the issuance of the
20 several sets of bonds, I think in the complaint they mention
21 four, but it's either three or four, so these several sets of
22 bonds were all issued prior to Mr. Galanis being arraigned
23 before this court, well prior to September 24, 2015. They were
24 not only issued, they were each fully purchased and sold prior
25 to Mr. Galanis being arraigned before this Court on September

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1 24, 2015.

2 THE COURT: What about the alleged misappropriation of
3 eight and a half million dollars of proceeds? When did that
4 happen?

5 MS. BACHRACH: I didn't mean to interrupt, your Honor.

6 That, too, your Honor, is certainly not set forth as
7 being something that happened post his arraignment, and let me
8 explain why.

9 There are only three dates given for Jason Galanis, in
10 terms of his acts and his e-mail correspondence and the like,
11 in this complaint that are after September 24, 2015, and I will
12 take the Court through them.

13 The very first, your Honor, is a typo. It's on page
14 34. It's paragraph 51. In the middle -- let me turn to it --
15 it reflects that the agent looked at a series of --

16 THE COURT: Bank records. Paragraph 51.

17 MS. BACHRACH: Yes. Right. It reflects that the
18 agent looked at bank records, and says that she learned between
19 September 23, 2014 and April 15, 2015. And if the Court drops
20 down eight and nine lines, it says there was a negative balance
21 as on April 15, 2016. And since the review was only through
22 April 15, 2015, I would submit that that's pretty likely a
23 typographical error.

24 So I am going to go on to the second reference of Mr.
25 Galanis after September 24, 2015. And that's going to be on

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1 page 44, your Honor, at paragraph 62.

2 There, your Honor, there was a review of bank records
3 between August 27, 2014 and bank records that pretty naturally
4 go to the end of a month, meaning October 30, 2015, it would be
5 about a month after Mr. Galanis's release. And this paragraph
6 details amounts that went into the Thorsdale account. And I
7 think it's very clear from reading this complaint that there is
8 a lot of money that goes into the Thorsdale account; some of it
9 is relating to the bonds, which they detail, but not all of it
10 is relating to the bonds. But there is no allegation here
11 about any money being deposited or withdrawn by Mr. Galanis
12 post September 24, 2015, and certainly nothing showing any
13 money that can be traced to the bonds, with tracing principles
14 that we are all aware from *Banco Cafetero* and other federal
15 cases. In short, it shows no activity that's violative of
16 bail. And I realize it wasn't mentioned by Mr. Blais, but I
17 thought it only fair to point out to the Court the various
18 places where I have been seeing dates that would be after the
19 arraignment date.

20 So now we get to paragraph 63, which Mr. Blais did
21 mention, obviously. What I need to point out to the Court here
22 is that this complaint alleges a scheme, and this alleged
23 scheme was complete long before February 17, 2016. Frankly, it
24 was complete before Mr. Galanis was arraigned before this Court
25 on the key date of September 24, 2015.

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1 THE COURT: To be precise here, the complaint charges
2 a conspiracy, and that conspiracy may extend well beyond a
3 period in which a particular transaction contemplated by the
4 conspiracy concluded.

5 MS. BACHRACH: Absolutely.

6 THE COURT: Go ahead.

7 MS. BACHRACH: Of course, your Honor is entirely
8 correct. But it has to still be in furtherance of this
9 conspiracy, or in furtherance of the scheme. So let me change
10 the word scheme to conspiracy, because the complaint does
11 allege two conspiracies.

12 The "in furtherance of" is key. And if everything was
13 completed -- the issuance, the purchase of sale -- it's not
14 only that the scheme was completed, your Honor, this is a
15 letter that's, frankly, a bit of a tirade against the SEC, and
16 it's really very hard to see, and there is no allegation
17 whatsoever in this 45-page complaint of how this letter is in
18 furtherance of the conspiracy or of the scheme.

19 THE COURT: Posit this. That the object of the
20 conspiracy, securities fraud, is to cause a security to be
21 issued and misappropriate the proceeds of that security for the
22 personal benefit of the co-conspirators.

23 Now, for that conspiracy to succeed, there needs an
24 ongoing effort to make sure that there are not red flags, that
25 there is not an alert to law enforcement, that there are not

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1 lawsuits filed by individuals. One must keep up the pretense
2 that everything is as it should be.

3 With that in mind, the statement is as follows: "The
4 SEC has declared the bonds dubious, in part because they have
5 jumped to the conclusion, based on the most superficial
6 incomplete information, that Thorsdale has diverted money for
7 its own benefit. This is without doubt a false assumption."

8 Isn't that a statement during and in furtherance of a
9 conspiracy, which includes as its object the defendants getting
10 to keep the money that was misappropriated?

11 MS. BACHRACH: I would submit, no, your Honor. With
12 respect to all those difficult cases of *Krulewitch* and
13 *Pinkerton*, and all of those cases which are very difficult, I
14 don't think that's a basis for bail revocation, but let me
15 answer your question more directly, your Honor.

16 The defendant was railing against the SEC in a matter
17 that was already public, where the SEC, I believe, had already
18 sued -- I am being told yes. So if the Court's point that he
19 didn't want red flags and didn't want things out in the open,
20 they were. This is his rebuttal.

21 THE COURT: Isn't this a letter to a woman in Pine
22 Ridge South Dakota, the thrust of which is don't believe what
23 you hear from the SEC, believe what I am telling you now about
24 misappropriation of funds.

25 MS. BACHRACH: I think that your Honor rephrased it in

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1 a way that is absolutely fair, but I don't think that that's an
2 offense, and I don't think that makes it a continuing offense
3 that deserves a presumption that he should be detained. If the
4 Court feels that there shouldn't be this kind of
5 correspondence, or deems it interference, I can think of
6 conditions that this Court could impose far short of detention,
7 and I understand the Court's view if it feels concerned.

8 But we are talking about a very drastic measure, and
9 we are talking about something where really, your Honor, all
10 the conduct that was relevant, material and necessary to the
11 scheme. And I am not ignoring your point about a conspiracy,
12 your Honor. I am just saying what is relevant and necessary to
13 the scheme was done long before. And in terms of beware of law
14 enforcement, the defendant had already been arrested so that
15 was already extremely public, another issue I am going to get
16 to when we get to the government's text messages. So it's not
17 like the members of the tribe and the economic council didn't
18 know that he has been under investigation and arrested in the
19 very indictment that's before your Honor.

20 So that was out as well. And there was an SEC
21 complaint, I gather, that had been filed about this very issue
22 now before this Court, this new matter. So we are not talking
23 about somebody who is keeping anything hidden. He is
24 disagreeing, your Honor. And it's troublesome, frankly, to
25 think that for disagreeing, however -- I hope my client will

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1 forgive me putting it this way -- inartfully he might have put
2 it, but it's troublesome that for disagreeing, this somehow
3 becomes an offense in and of itself during a period of pretrial
4 release. He has really complied with all of the restrictions
5 that have been put on him. He certainly is no flight risk, and
6 I do not see that this particular letter makes the crime one,
7 if there was one.

8 Let me also say something, because the Court has
9 mentioned misappropriations and duly noted the amount of \$8.7
10 million.

11 THE COURT: Is it charged as 8.7 or 8.5 because I did
12 see the number 8.5 at one point, but I heard Mr. Blais mention
13 8.7. I don't know that it's material, but, Mr. Blais, which is
14 it?

15 MR. BLAIS: I think based on paragraph 62, that the
16 number is 8.75.

17 THE COURT: Thank you. I stand corrected.

18 Go ahead.

19 MS. BACHRACH: I think we both do because I had it
20 wrong too.

21 So in terms of the alleged misappropriation, I would
22 like to point out something, because it's not usually something
23 I do, there is no point, in quarreling with a finding of
24 probable cause, and that's not my aim to do that before the
25 Court, but I would like to point out something in line with not

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1 only the presumption of innocence, but the fact that this is a
2 very preliminary stage and a very low standard to get to this
3 presumption issue. So I would like to point out something with
4 respect to the misappropriation allegation, your Honor.

5 There apparently was a very large document production
6 that was made by counsel in California on behalf of Mr. Galanis
7 just last week. I think it crisscrossed with the arrest.
8 Obviously, they didn't know he was going to be arrested, but in
9 any event, it was a document production that was made in
10 connection, if my understanding is right, with a grand jury
11 subpoena calling for certain documents. And a lot of those
12 documents, your Honor, are very relevant to the issue of the
13 \$8.7 million so let me give it in broad brushstrokes.

14 Number one, there seems to have been a sale of
15 securities in a life insurance company, securities in it that
16 were of a life insurance company, from Thorsdale to the annuity
17 provider. I think that's the WAPCC. So that was a major chunk
18 of this \$8.75 million. There were also fees, is my
19 understanding, and that apparently there are documents. I
20 don't have all of these documents, your Honor, because they
21 were just produced and I just came on. I am not sure the
22 government has had a chance to look at any of these yet because
23 of the arrest and the crisscross. But there have been
24 documents produced to show that Thorsdale was entitled to fees,
25 and apparently those fees make up most, if not all of the

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1 difference between the sale of the securities and the rest.

2 So we are not talking about a person who is putting
3 his hand into a till, the money that belongs to other people.
4 We are talking about a situation where, it's my understanding,
5 your Honor, and, as I said, I haven't been able this quickly to
6 look at the documents, but it's my understanding that there are
7 documents showing that Thorsdale was entitled to money for the
8 sale of securities, and that Thorsdale was entitled to fees.

9 So the reason I mention this, your Honor, is, again,
10 not to say, oh, a magistrate didn't find probable cause. But
11 if we are looking at this, and if the Court is concerned about
12 these allegations and thinking, do I have to step in here and
13 do something for the safety of the community, and I understand
14 the Court's role and its position, I would like to say to the
15 Court the following. It does not appear to have happened
16 during the period of time that he was on release. There is no
17 allegation in this 45-page complaint that this happened during
18 the period of release. And that February letter doesn't cut
19 it.

20 I don't know if the Court has questions or I should go
21 on to the documents that I just saw for the first time when I
22 sat down before the Court came in.

23 THE COURT: You should tailor your presentation to the
24 matters that you feel important to raise with me. This is your
25 opportunity to respond.

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MS. BACHRACH: May I interrupt for one second?

THE COURT: Absolutely.

MS. BACHRACH: I will get to that in a minute.

Let me address these text messages. I would note, your Honor, that when I did get to speak with the government, they did warn me that there would be some new evidence, and they would not give me these documents. It's their prerogative. I don't know why, but I am now seeing them for the first time in the last whenever, half hour, 40 minutes.

Let me first deal with the cell phone. I find this a little difficult to read because I can't really always tell who is talking, but I gather that what the government is saying is that these texts, and I hope they will correct me if I am wrong on this, I am gathering that they are saying that all of these texts are only from Mr. Galanis. There is no reply from the other person, or is there a reply? I don't know.

THE COURT: Mr. Blais, do you want to state on the record what the column "direction" signifies?

MR. BLAIS: I think I can clarify the issue. You can see there are two columns. At the top there is one called "from" and there is one called "to." The 9575 number is Jason Galanis's number. That number is subscribed in his name, and I don't think there is any dispute that that's his phone.

You can see where that number appears in the "from" column, and there is a message that is sent by Jason Galanis,

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1 which is the large majority. There are a couple of responses,
2 and in that case, the 9575 number appears in the "to" column.

3 As well, there is also in the column called
4 "direction," which is the second column, if it says "incoming,"
5 that is incoming to the witness that provided these texts. So
6 that means it was outgoing by Mr. Galanis. If it says
7 "outgoing," it was outgoing to Jason Galanis, and thus incoming
8 to him. I hope that clarifies.

9 THE COURT: Just so I understand, you provided what I
10 will call incoming to Mr. Galanis in the threads of
11 conversations that you have here?

12 MR. BLAIS: Yes. Correct. We didn't leave any
13 relevant texts in these blocks of conversation out.

14 THE COURT: Thank you.

15 MR. BLAIS: There weren't many responses, but when
16 there were responses, they are included.

17 THE COURT: Thank you.

18 MS. BACHRACH: That's helpful. I guess if I had had a
19 chance to look and analyze all of this, I would have figured it
20 out, but on such quick notice I couldn't.

21 I would first like to address that the government says
22 in the first block of texts, your Honor, it's 7476, all the way
23 on the left-side column, it said, "I knew you had contact, by
24 the way." And the government says, well, this shows he knew
25 that this particular person was in contact with law

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1 enforcement.

2 I don't know who this individual really is, anything
3 more than a name, who he is and what he does. But if I look at
4 the previous message, it says, "Give me your lawyer's name so
5 my counsel can get in touch." So whether there is contact with
6 the lawyers is different than whether there is contact with law
7 enforcement. In fact, the previous two texts are all about
8 lawyers.

9 I might add that I believe at one point these two
10 individuals seemed to have had the same lawyer at some point in
11 time, which is one of the references further on. So I don't
12 think this is necessarily relating to law enforcement or any
13 knowledge that there is a witness. This is not a case where
14 there has been a witness list, to my knowledge.

15 Then if we go further down, your Honor, on the same
16 page, the number all the way on the left 6900, it says "Pretty
17 sure you knew." And the government says, well, this relates to
18 his having been arrested. I think that's a reasonable
19 inference, but I don't think it's a reasonable inference that
20 the person would have known because he was somehow in bed with
21 law enforcement. I believe there were a lot of people that
22 knew that Mr. Galanis had been arrested, and it was in the
23 press as well, to my knowledge, not to mention mutual friends.
24 And I think it's important to point it out to the Court, this
25 person was a friend, is my understanding. I say my

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1 understanding, your Honor, with the caveat that this is what I
2 am learning about within the last, let's say, half hour, 45
3 minutes.

4 If you go to the next page, 6884, on the left side, it
5 says, "Tell Ron I said hell" -- and I think that's meant to say
6 hello. And then the name Fleming. If one drops further down
7 after the smile face it says, "Hello." He corrects himself and
8 says "hello." Then there is a smile face and then Fleming.
9 And I gather this was an attorney who was also -- I am learning
10 from Mr. Blais that it was this particular person's attorney,
11 who was also an attorney who Mr. Galanis had consulted. I
12 don't think that the Court can draw any inference about
13 somebody being --

14 THE COURT: That Mr. Galanis had insulted? Where are
15 you getting that from?

16 MS. BACHRACH: Consulted. I think the insults come
17 later, your Honor. I was talking consulting.

18 THE COURT: Go ahead.

19 MS. BACHRACH: If we go to the next page, 6512, it
20 says, "By the way, you were the second largest document
21 production." I don't see how anyone gets a witness from that.
22 If there were a lot of documents relating to some transactions
23 with him, there were; it doesn't mean anything.

24 Then we get to -- and I understand, if I made a
25 Freudian slip, my bad, as my children would say, but we do get

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1 to the insulting part of this. And my understanding is this is
2 what they used to call drunk dialing. I think they now call it
3 drunk texting. I gather that the client was on a plane and
4 drunk and was insulting.

5 Your Honor, he was also insulting to the SEC. I don't
6 see that this is obstructive conduct. It's terrible language.
7 That's certainly not something that is obstructive. And it's
8 very clear that this is somebody who is upset about what he
9 perceived as a friend being disloyal and disrespectful to Mr.
10 Galanis's own wife. Apparently, his wife's name is Monet and
11 that's why you see that name referenced there.

12 So when it says words I am not going to repeat at
13 4731, he calls him a lowlife, to Monet, we are not talking
14 about art, we are talking about Mr. Galanis's wife.

15 Then he goes on and says, "She was your friend." It
16 goes on further and says that this person seems to have been
17 disloyal to her. I don't think long, long life means anything
18 more than it's a long lifetime, what goes around comes around.
19 We have all heard that.

20 THE COURT: But what comes around goes around and the
21 upsetment, isn't it laid bare in 4738, 39 and 40? "See you in
22 court." "Weasel." "Government fag." He is accusing the man
23 of being a cooperator, someone who ratted him out to the
24 government. Isn't that a fair reading of that portion of the
25 texting? Do you want to give me a different inference for

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1 weasel?

2 MS. BACHRACH: Well, I think weasel could apply for a
3 lot. But "see you in court," which is probably one that really
4 troubles your Honor, I gather there was a fair amount of money
5 owed between these two people, a lot of money, and there can be
6 lawsuits. I don't think this can be inferred as threatening
7 somebody, especially --

8 THE COURT: We didn't get to that part. The question
9 is, is this saying to the recipient, you are working with the
10 government, or, as it is put offensively here, "government
11 fag"?

12 MS. BACHRACH: I don't have anything to say about that
13 comment, your Honor. Every part of that comment is clearly
14 insulting and upsetting to people on a lot of different levels.

15 THE COURT: I understand that. But the operative word
16 in this case -- I didn't fall off the pumpkin truck, and I have
17 seen folks in the securities industry use all different types
18 of language, but there is an import to this language that you
19 are working with the government. The government is the word
20 that is the tell in this line.

21 MS. BACHRACH: I understand what your Honor is saying,
22 and I would like to point out that if that phrase is the one
23 that really comes out most resoundingly, I think it's
24 unfortunate for the following reasons. This is obviously
25 somebody who is (a) drunk and (b) furious at somebody for how

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1 he treated his wife. Do other things come out at the same
2 time? Yeah. That happens. It's not attractive, but it
3 happens. But there was nothing damaging, your Honor. There
4 was no issue other than angry, might I say the word lousy
5 texting, with a lot of language that shouldn't be used for a
6 lot of reasons. I didn't mean to only concentrate on one word
7 in the phrase that the Court had taken out. I understand that
8 both words are problematic. But I think that the whole drunken
9 rant is obviously far less than a fine moment, but I don't
10 think it's deserving of putting somebody in detention.

11 And on the issue of detention, your Honor, I would
12 like to make another point that I would like to call to the
13 Court's attention, but it is one that I feel I have to make up
14 at sidebar because I believe it would have to be sealed.

15 So it's a point I would like to make to the Court that
16 I think the Court would want to take into account in weighing
17 the government's request. So I request permission to approach
18 if the Court would agree.

19 THE COURT: With whom?

20 MS. BACHRACH: Everyone. Just not the people in the
21 audience.

22 THE COURT: What is the nature of the subject matter
23 before I consider whether or not to grant your request?

24 MS. BACHRACH: Whether Mr. Galanis would have to be
25 put in solitary confinement if he were detained.

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1 THE COURT: Well, that's something we can talk about
2 after I decide on what I am going to do here.

3 MS. BACHRACH: I appreciate that, your Honor. I
4 wanted the Court to take it into account because there are
5 issues of which the Court is aware that have been in sealed
6 papers, and those issues in sealed papers might require
7 solitary confinement.

8 THE COURT: First of all, these are decisions made by
9 the Bureau of Prisons. If you would like me to make a
10 recommendation, you don't need a sidebar. I know exactly what
11 you're referring to. And if it gets to that, and you would
12 like me to make a recommendation, I will make a recommendation.
13 I know what you want to raise. It's the matter that's been
14 referred to in sealed documents previously submitted to this
15 Court, is that correct?

16 MS. BACHRACH: Yes, your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Then I understand that.

18 MS. BACHRACH: I wasn't making a request. I was
19 saying that it was something that might have to happen. And,
20 of course, solitary confinement is an even bigger burden than
21 other forms of detention, and it makes dealing with, not just
22 one huge case with enormous amounts of documents, but two huge
23 cases with enormous amounts of documents, really not just
24 terribly difficult, but I would say unbearably difficult. And
25 if this Court were in any way inclined to impose detention,

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1 then we would ask for an evidentiary hearing, your Honor.

2 THE COURT: This is your opportunity. You can call
3 your witnesses right now. This is your opportunity. This is
4 the bail revocation hearing. Call whoever you would like.
5 This is it.

6 MS. BACHRACH: I would have thought, because the
7 government had the burden of proof, it would be the government
8 who would be calling one of its witnesses.

9 THE COURT: They are relying on the materials that
10 have been referenced. They have put in their case. We are on
11 your case. You may call anyone you wish, if you wish to.

12 MS. BACHRACH: Then let me think about that for a
13 moment, and let me just look if there are some other matters
14 that I would like to bring to the Court's attention.

15 I think that what the Court asked with respect to the
16 other document that the government produced today, at least to
17 us for the first time, about Colaris Ventures, without any
18 proof that Colaris Ventures is an entity, and to my knowledge
19 it's not -- if it's a domain name, it's a domain name -- there
20 is no violation of pretrial orders of Judge Ellis or anyone
21 else.

22 In fact, I would hand up to the Court, if I may, two
23 documents from Mr. Galanis to the pretrial officer, which shows
24 that he has revealed, as required, his various positions with
25 various entities. With the Court's permission, I will hand

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1 them up now.

2 THE COURT: Yes. Thank you.

3 MS. BACHRACH: Thank you.

4 THE COURT: Thank you.

5 It's a letter on the letterhead of Jason Galanis,
6 dated 30 December 2015, to Michelle Ries. And the second
7 appears to be an e-mail from Mr. Galanis, dated April 7, 2016,
8 at 3:10:05 p.m. to the same Officer Ries.

9 MS. BACHRACH: I would mention one other thing with
10 respect to the texts that we were mentioning before. Since I
11 mentioned that there had been disputes over funds, apparently,
12 there was a question of money having been diverted. When I say
13 a large sum, I believe it might have been in the neighborhood,
14 without having seen any documents, your Honor, as I am sure you
15 understand, I believe it may have been in the vicinity of three
16 quarters of a million dollars. So we are talking about a lot
17 of money.

18 So when there is a discussion of scams and payback and
19 the rest, it may be tempting, within the small amount of
20 information that we have, to assume that everything is directed
21 against a person only because of the government. But, frankly,
22 your Honor, it really doesn't make sense here. This was
23 somebody who had been a friend, who had mistreated, in the
24 opinion of Mr. Galanis, Mr. Galanis's wife. There had been
25 disputes over money. Mr. Galanis was drunk and there was never

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1 any kind of act or real threat. So while I understand the
2 language may be troubling, I would ask the Court to please
3 recognize that this is not a basis for bail revocation and for
4 detention.

5 In that regard, I would like to point out to the Court
6 what the Court already knows so I won't spend much time on it.
7 But all of us know here that the Bail Reform Act, while a
8 difficult and sometimes harsh act, the general purpose -- it's
9 been generally acknowledged in this district, Eastern District,
10 and all over the country -- is that the prevailing idea is to
11 avoid pretrial detention, not to encourage it but to avoid it.
12 And so the idea is not to put in the government's hands an old
13 case. When I say an old case, I mean a case that really, at
14 the heart of it, predates September 24, 2015. And by
15 stretching it and extending it by that letter, or any other
16 conduct, into 2016, I would urge the Court that it's unfair.

17 And if the Court wants to impose conditions, and I
18 don't mean just a curfew, but I would ask the Court to take the
19 pretrial services recommendation to heart, and the similar
20 recommendation of the court in California, and to release Mr.
21 Galanis, and if there are conditions that the Court feels
22 necessary or wants the prosecutor and defense to discuss, I
23 would ask the Court to do so.

24 And I would like to think for a few minutes about
25 whether to call any witnesses. Thank you.

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1 MR. BLAIS: May I respond briefly, your Honor?

2 THE COURT: Not until I hear from counsel.

3 MS. BACHRACH: May I consult one minute without
4 wasting your time?

5 THE COURT: Of course.

6 (Counsel confers with defendant)

7 MS. BACHRACH: Thank you for being patient, your
8 Honor. We really appreciate it.

9 As to people in the courtroom, there is nobody we have
10 to call. Having been confronted for the first time today with
11 respect to these texts, I would like to say two things.

12 One is I don't know when the government got this into
13 their possession, because they did say they got it by subpoena.
14 I would note that it looks like the person did not contact law
15 enforcement himself or did not seem frightened, but I do note
16 that the government did not bring this to the attention of the
17 magistrate in California. They may end up telling us that they
18 didn't have it then, but I would like to bring up that point.

19 If this Court is at all inclined to take into account
20 the government's arguments about these, as they put it,
21 selected text messages, and I do notice that one of them is
22 also redacted, so I would object to its being redacted because
23 I would want to know what it said, but if the Court is inclined
24 to take into account at all these texts, then we would ask that
25 that witness be produced. To my knowledge, he is not in the

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1 courtroom.

2 THE COURT: Anything else you wish to do? Anybody
3 else you want to call?

4 MS. BACHRACH: No, your Honor. Thank you.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Blais, I will give you an opportunity
6 to respond.

7 MR. BLAIS: Yes, your Honor, just a few minor points.

8 First is the defense counsel has referenced the
9 recommendation of pretrial services for release on conditions.
10 Obviously, pretrial didn't have the benefit of some of the
11 evidence that we presented to the Court today, including the
12 text messages and the e-mail and the February 17 letter. And I
13 would note that the Central District of California, the
14 district where Mr. Galanis is monitored, and where there is a
15 relationship with pretrial, with respect to his arrest last
16 week, did recommend detention. And that report is included as
17 part of the pretrial package that is before your Honor.

18 We could not disagree more with the notion that this
19 offense was somehow completed at the conclusion of the bond
20 issuances, and that as a result, the February 17, 2016 letter
21 was, to quote, neither material nor relevant to your Honor's
22 consideration.

23 I think it's important to recognize that the
24 securities that are the subject of the alleged securities fraud
25 are bonds, and they are ongoing obligations with respect to

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1 those bonds under the indentures and the other documents that
2 governs those bonds. For example, there are interest payments
3 that are due on an annual basis. There are payments to the
4 tribe and the economic development corporation that issued the
5 bonds that are due every year. So part and parcel of the
6 securities fraud, as we allege in the complaint, are deceiving
7 the tribe as to the payment of those interest payments, where
8 they are coming from, when they are going to be paid, etc.,
9 etc.

10 So the representations in the February 17 letter are
11 part of an ongoing fraud and part of an effort to continue to
12 deceive the tribe about where their money is, the location of
13 the money that's supposed to have been invested on their
14 behalf. And as I noted earlier, the most recent series of
15 bonds are in default because the interest payment that was due
16 on them on May 1st of this year was not paid because the
17 purported annuity provider stopped providing annuity
18 distributions until that annuity provider was indemnified. So
19 the bonds are in default and the February 17 letter is, we
20 submit, part of an ongoing effort to deceive the tribe about
21 ongoing obligations that are due under those bonds, including
22 the interest and including the annual payments to the tribe.

23 There was a reference to some documents that have been
24 produced that purportedly show that Thorsdale was due some sort
25 of payments under these bonds. Let me be clear, as we outlined

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1 this in the complaint as well. Under the indentures and the
2 annuity contracts that were signed between the tribe and the
3 purported annuity provider, the money was supposed to be turned
4 over to a specific named investment manager that is named in
5 those annuity contracts. That investment manager is referenced
6 in the complaint as the, quote, investment manager. Thorsdale
7 is not that investment manager, and there is no provision in
8 any of the closing documents with respect to these bonds for
9 Thorsdale to have any role in managing any of these bonds
10 proceeds. It was supposed to be the, quote, investment
11 manager. And that investment manager never got a single penny
12 from the proceeds of these bond issuances.

13 So this belated explanation that there are purportedly
14 documents that would somehow suggest that Thorsdale was
15 entitled to manage or receive fees from these proceeds is
16 simply contrary to all of the closing documents with respect to
17 these bonds, and all of the documents that have been produced
18 by neutral third parties, including, for example, the trustee
19 U.S. bank who is responsible for administering these bonds. So
20 we don't think that there is some magic document out there that
21 is going to show that we somehow got the theory of our case
22 wrong.

23 Finally, with respect to the text messages, I think
24 they largely speak for themselves. I think their nature is
25 evident on their face. I think, even if the January 10 texts

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1 are part of some drunken tirade, there are obviously references
2 in the earlier series of text messages to having been contacted
3 by the commission, to having made document productions. So
4 there is some awareness, as reflected in the government fag
5 conduct, that there may have been some connection between this
6 particular witness and the government. To be clear, this
7 witness is not a cooperating government witness, to be clear.
8 Whether that perception was out there or not, it may very well,
9 just to be clear, that individual is not a government
10 cooperator in this matter.

11 With that, we would rest on the prior argument.

12 THE COURT: This is the Court's statement of findings
13 on the hearing conducted pursuant to the Bail Reform Act, 18
14 U.S.C. 3148.

15 Here, the government asserts, among other things, that
16 there is probable cause to believe that Mr. Galanis has
17 committed a federal crime while on release and is unlikely to
18 abide by any condition or combination of conditions of release.
19 Those are two independent grounds under Section 3148. The
20 first finds its basis in 3148(b)(1)(B) and the second
21 alternative ground is rooted in 3148(b)(2)(B).

22 Shannon Bienick, an agent of the FBI, has sworn out a
23 sealed complaint, now unsealed, which in 45 pages outlines a
24 conspiracy, in which Jason Galanis is alleged to have
25 participated, that began in or about March 2014 and continued

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1 through in or about April 2016.

2 Mr. Galanis and two codefendants in the case before me
3 are alleged to have conspired to commit securities fraud, and
4 in connection with that activity, participated in selling bonds
5 issued by a Native American tribal entity, and found buyers and
6 placements for them.

7 He is also charged, during that same time period, and
8 with two of his codefendants in the case before me, with actual
9 securities fraud from May 2014 to April 2016. He is charged
10 with conspiracy to commit investment adviser fraud, and also in
11 Count Four, actual investment adviser fraud.

12 The sworn complaint alleges that Jason Galanis
13 misappropriated, in paragraph 30(a), eight and a half million
14 of the proceeds of tribal bond issuances for his personal use.
15 Elsewhere the figure is pegged at \$8,750,000.

16 Defense counsel has pointed out that much of the
17 criminal conduct took place while or prior to the time that the
18 defendant was charged in the case before me. But that is not
19 exclusively the case. The government has presented at the
20 hearing today a letter authored by Jason Galanis, and sent on
21 February 17, 2016, which was sent to Geneva Lonehill, in Pine
22 Ridge, South Dakota, and it purports to provide information
23 about the collateral backing of three series of revenue bonds
24 issued by Wakpamni Lake Community Corporation. And it asserts
25 that interest of over 2.72 million was already paid by these

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1 distributions, precisely as contemplated in the indenture and
2 related agreements. The government has proffered that it has
3 evidence that that statement was untrue, that it was paid by
4 transfers from Devin Archer and proceeds of an IPO offering.

5 Further, the letter appears to have as its intent and
6 purpose trying to dissuade the recipient from taking any action
7 that would uncover or cast further attention upon the scheme.
8 "The SEC has declared the bonds dubious, in part because they
9 have jumped to the conclusion, based on the most superficial
10 incomplete information, that Thorsdale has diverted money for
11 its own benefit. This is without doubt a false assumption."

12 The statements made by Shannon Bienick indicate that
13 that statement is untrue. I find the statements made in the
14 Bienick complaint to be internally consistent, with the
15 possible exception of one typo that was pointed out at today's
16 hearing, and supports a finding that there is probable cause to
17 believe that Jason Galanis committed the crimes of securities
18 fraud and the other crimes I mentioned, in part, during the
19 time he was on release in this case. This supports an order of
20 detention.

21 Separately, I conclude that Mr. Galanis is unlikely to
22 abide by any condition or combination of conditions of release.
23 For that I look at the totality of circumstances. And that
24 totality takes account of a fact which is not new in this case,
25 but is appropriately considered at this juncture, and that is

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1 that the indicted offenses for which there will be a trial this
2 September, at least according to the grand jury and its finding
3 of probable cause, were committed while Mr. Galanis was on
4 probation following a conviction of a crime before the
5 Honorable Manuel Real of the Central District of California.

6 That, coupled with the evidence before me as to the
7 most recent conduct, leads me to believe that there is no
8 combination of conditions which protects the public from
9 further conduct by this individual, which would represent a
10 danger to that community. It is a danger to have someone
11 committing the crime of conspiracy to commit securities fraud
12 while on release.

13 So those are my two and separate findings.
14 Accordingly, I remand Mr. Jason Galanis to the custody of the
15 United States Marshal for this district, to be held pending
16 trial on the charge before me. I leave the question of the
17 conditions of his confinement, whether there is any need for
18 separation or how the separation may usefully be accomplished,
19 to the Bureau of Prisons' staff.

20 Fortunately, and happily, I note that there are two
21 facilities proximate to this courthouse where Mr. Galanis can
22 be held and that the Bureau of Prisons has great experience
23 with accommodating needs for separation where they exist.

24 I would note that the action I have taken today is not
25 materially different than the action I have taken in drug

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1 conspiracy cases, where on occasion there is reason to release
2 someone on bail pending trial, and that individual thereafter
3 has engaged in some form of drug trafficking during the period
4 of release. Such individuals are remanded to the custody of
5 the U.S. marshal, and the outcome in the case of Jason Galanis
6 is no different.

7 Anything further from the government?

8 MR. BLAIS: Only, your Honor, if you can direct the
9 marshals, Mr. Galanis does need to make his initial appearance
10 in the complaint in magistrate's court. So if they could be
11 directed to bring the defendant to courtroom 5A for his
12 appearance down there.

13 THE COURT: Can that be accomplished?

14 MARSHAL: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: Anything further from the defendant?

16 MS. BACHRACH: If I may look for one minute, your
17 Honor.

18 No, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Thank you all very much.

20 (Adjourned)
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